



Course Code & Title	LISS3470 Media Training				
Convenor(s)	Media Players International : Tim Grout-Smith & Lily Poberezhska				
Institution	King's College London	Department	LISS DTP		
Academic Year	2023-24	Term	Spring		
Number of sessions	2	Research Platform	Knowledge Exchange & Co-generation	Length of Session(s)	2 half-day sessions
Day, Date		Start : End		Room Location	
Wednesday 14 th February 2024 Thursday 15 th February 2024		09:15-13:00 09:15-13:00		Online, via Zoom	
Enrolment Links:	Available to book on SkillsForge from Tuesday 12th December 2023 . Click to log in and register: https://training.kcl.ac.uk/kcl/#he/dev/eventDetails.;em.providerCode=LISS,providerOrgAlias=kcl,number=3470; Questions? Visit our Training FAQ here: Frequently Asked Questions - LISS DTP (liss-dtp.ac.uk)				

Course Description:

This is a two-day Media Workshop designed specifically for PhDs and early career researchers who want to build their research profile in the non-specialised media. The trainers, ex-BBC journalists with decades of training experience, prepare exercises and interviews tailored for each participant's area of study and offer training to mixed groups from different academic backgrounds.

This interactive workshop starts with identifying media-friendly elements in research, building relationships with journalists through various channels, examining some techniques for taking control of an interview and concludes with on-camera interviews and playback analysis.

Throughout, trainees are given examples, templates and tips on how to tackle the exercises, to increase their confidence and broaden their understanding. The trainers do not believe in learning by humiliation and see properly-grounded confidence as the key to interview success.

Learning Outcomes

- Knowing how to identify newsworthy, 'media-friendly' elements in their research
- Knowing how to 'pitch' their research to the media
- Mastering techniques for taking control of the interview and for answering difficult or hostile questions
- Increased confidence in giving interviews to print and online media, radio and TV



Schedule

Day 1

9.15-11.00 Trainers' introduction. **Exercise:** introducing yourself to a non-academic audience. What makes a good story? Understanding the Media. Language and Audience. Identifying "newsworthy" elements in your work.

11.00 Coffee break.

11.15-12.15 Initial contacts with the media. How your press office can help you. **Exercise:** Writing a headline and a summary for a press release on your work. Tips on using social media to attract journalists' attention to your research and building relationships with journalists.

12.15-13.00 Interviews as an active opportunity, not a passive experience: preparing your messages. Taking control of the interview. Techniques for handling difficult or hostile questions.

Day 2 (participants work in two separate groups/Zoom meetings)

9.15 - 13.00 (with breaks after each recording round) **Exercise:** recording of 2 on-camera/radio down-the-line interviews for each participant based on the information about their research in the pre-course questionnaires

Eligibility:

You must be a PhD student at one of the LISS DTP partner institutions (QMUL, KCL, or Imperial). You should be using social science methodologies in your research.

LISS ESRC funded students have priority registration.

Technical Requirements:

The training is delivered via Zoom. On Day 2 participants work in two groups/separate Zoom meetings. Mock interview files can be sent to participants via WeTransfer on request.

Pre-course preparation:

This interactive workshop leads from identifying media-friendly elements in research, building relationships with journalists through various channels, examining some techniques for taking control of an interview and concludes with mock on-camera/radio interviews and playback analysis. **The organisers ask that you fill in a questionnaire about your research a week prior to the session. This is to give them time to tailor interview questions to each participant, for the culminating exercise, two short on-camera interviews per person on their research. Most participants regard this as the highlight of the session, so please fill in the questionnaire in non-academic language to ensure you get the most out of the training.**

Number of students: 15 max